

CLAVICERA LATREILLE, APRIL 1802 (INSECTA, HYMENOPTERA):
PROPOSED SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS IN
FAVOUR OF *CERATINA* LATREILLE, [OCTOBER 1802–SEPTEMBER
1803.] Z.N.(S.) 1919

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The purpose of this application is to resubmit a proposal to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Clavicera* Latreille, April 1802, and to place the generic name *Ceratina* Latreille, [October 1802–September 1803], on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology. The original application by Benson, Ferrière, and Richards (1947, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.*, 1 : 205) proposed substantially the same action as requested here and was submitted to the Commission on the recommendation of the Committee on Generic Nomenclature of the Royal Entomological Society of London (Marshall, *et al.*, 1937, *The generic names of British insects*, Part 5 : 81, 83, 91, 138). The Commission considered the application (file Z.N.(S.) 133) and deferred taking a decision until supplementary statements were received setting out the nature and extent of the confusion which would result if the Règles were strictly applied (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.*, 4 (13/15): 407–408). No supplementary statements were prepared and this reapplication became necessary following the statement of intention by the Acting Secretary in April 1963 to close all files in the back-log of applications submitted before October 1959 and uncompleted (1963, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.*, 20 : 81).

2. The details of the case are: Latreille (*Hist. nat. Fourmis* : 432) published the genus name *Clavicera* for *Hylaeus albilabris* Fabricius, 1793 [= *Apis cucurbitina* Rossi, 1792]. Later he rejected the name *Clavicera* (*Hist. nat. gén. partic. Crust. Ins.*, 3 : 380) because he believed the name improperly formed and substituted the genus name *Ceratina* for *Hylaeus albilabris* Fabricius. At this time he also indicated a family-group name: "sous-famille cinquième. Apiaires cërätines; ceratinae." (Italics his.) Griffin (1938, *J. Soc. Bibl. nat. Hist.*, 1 : 157) has determined that the date of the first publication is April 1802 and that the date of the second publication is between October 1802 and September 1803. *Ceratina* is therefore a junior objective synonym of *Clavicera*.

3. The genus name *Clavicera* has been used only once for a definite zoological object (Walckenaer, July–September 1802, *Faune Parisienne* : 132); once in a list of genera and type-species by Sandhouse (1943, *Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus.*, 92 (3156) : 536, 539) who applied strict priority pending an opinion from the Commission; and in synonymy by Dalla Torre (1896, *Cat. Hymen.*, 10 : 195), Michener (1944, *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 82 : 289), Muesebeck, *et al.* (1951, *Hymenoptera of America North of Mexico*, Synoptic Catalog, U.S. Dept. Agr. Monogr. No. 2, p. 1244), Mitchell (1962, *North Carolina Agr. Expt. Sta., Tech. Bull.* No. 152, p. 500), and Michener (1965, *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 130 : 220). No species-group names have been described under the genus name *Clavicera*, no genus-group names have been formed as compounds

including roots from the genus name *Clavicera*, and no family-group names have been formed by the addition of appropriate stems to the genus name *Clavicera*. The name *Ceratina* was consistently used by Latreille in his later publications (1805, *Hist. nat. Insect.*, 14 : 50, 1809, *Gen. Crust. and Insect.*, 4 : 160) and subsequently so by all other authors. To date 459 species-group taxa have been described under the genus name *Ceratina*, 8 genus-group names have been formed as compounds including all of the name or roots from the genus name *Ceratina*, and a family-group name, Ceratinidae (Latreille, 1802–1803) Ashmead 1899 (*Amer. Ent. Soc.*, 26 : 69) has been formed by the addition of the appropriate stem to the genus name *Ceratina*. Therefore the name *Ceratina* has been the accepted name in the primary zoological literature for more than 150 years.

4. In the interests of stability and universality of nomenclature and to leave no doubt as to the official status of the names in question, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Clavicera* Latreille, April 1802, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the generic name *Ceratina* Latreille [October 1802–September 1803] (gender: feminine), type-species, by monotypy, *Hylaeus albilabris* Fabricius, 1793 [= *Apis cucurbitina* Rossi, 1792], on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *cucurbitina* Rossi, 1792, as published in the binomen *Apis cucurbitina*, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the generic name *Clavicera* Latreille, April 1802, as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above, on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology;
- (5) to place the family-group name CERATINIDAE (correction of “Apiaires cératines; ceratinae”) Latreille, [1802–1803] (type-genus *Ceratina* Latreille [1802–1803]), on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.